February 17, 1976

"amendments means one amendment, one specific amendment".
There is no one who can alter that language. That's the
way the Constitution.... It is superior to all of our
other institutions.

SENATOR KOCH: I understand that, but I still believe
that we all have the problem of interpreting what they
mean if they mean "amendments" being plural, or possibly
"amendments" being what?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: I've given this Legislature my best
judgement. Senator Murphy calls that a liar and a shod
and a sham and a shell game that I'm playing. It's not.
I read the language, that's what it says to me, that's
what I expressed to you. I'm not playing games with you.

PRESIDENT: Does that answer the question?

SENATOR KOCH: I appreciate your sincere efforts on this,
Senator Cavanaugh, I mean that. But by the same token I
would hope you would indict the rest of us because we
might concur with the fact that Senator Murphy's resolution
can be followed by Congress.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I again don't want to
delay the matter. I want to tell you that there are two
contrasting views in the Chambers-Murphy resolution. So
I'd like to ask, first, Senator Chambers a question if I
might.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Certainly Senator Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Senator Chambers, is it your desire and
is it your understanding that if we pass this that the
Constitution is open to any and all amendments?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You mean if enough states agree.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh yes. The entire thing can go.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Absolutely it can be amended anyway it
wants to and that's your support for this. Is that correct?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I believe you could wipe out everything
there and write a new Constitution.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ... by means of amendments.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Thank you Senator Chambers. Now,
Senator Murphy, the other co-sponsor if you would yield
to a question. Senator Syas, could I talk to him publicly?

SENATOR MURPHY: Yes. There you go.